MINUTES

Fine Arts Faculty Council

April 3, 1992

Present: R.J. Parker (Chair), D. Andrus, K. Austin, B. Foss, G. Gibbons, A. Homzy, D. Jojich, J. Kelly, J. Krause, J. Locke, K. O'Brien, S. Panet-Raymond, P. Regimbald, E. Sacca, L. Sherman, G. Szilasi, K. Tweedie, M. Wagschal

Absent with apologies: L. Lerner

Guests: J.-P. Duchêsne

1. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of March 6, 1992

MOTION (Panet-Raymond, Gibbons) "that the minutes of the meeting of March 6, 1992 be approved."

CARRIED

2. Chair's Remarks

Dean Parker noted that a panel discussion on "Women and Teaching" held on March 9, 1992 was very successful, and that another discussion on teaching will be organized for a date later in April, after classes have finished. Discussions such as these will continue on an ongoing basis.

A discussion of the departmental appraisal process will be an agenda item for the May meeting of Council.

With respect to the Faculty Self-Appraisal, Dean Parker noted that a Self-Appraisal Committee has been struck and will hold its first meeting on Tuesday, April 7, 1992. The Committee's Final Report will be submitted to Faculty Council in September 1992.

A Review Committee has been established to review the mandate of the Concordia Art Gallery. Its members include:

A. Dutkewych, Chair, Department of Sculpture, Ceramics & Fibres
L. Ellen, Board of Governors
S. Hudson, Acting Chair, Department of Design Art
H. Kliger, Community representative
J. Krause, Chair, Department of Painting & Drawing
L. Lacroix, Director, Museology, Université du Québec à Mtl.
C. MacKenzie, Associate Vice-Rector, Services
S. Paikowsky, Curator, Concordia Art Gallery
J. Stewart, Director, CSBN Psychology

Dean Parker is continuing the process of opening up the budgetary process. While one group of Chairs has already reviewed the staff salary budgets, another group (J. Locke, D. Andrus, E. Sacca) will be meeting shortly to review in detail the academic salary budgets.

Dean Parker noted that item #6 on the agenda, the report of the University Computer Resources Committee, will be moved to the agenda for the May meeting of Faculty Council, when more information is available.

3. Question Period

E. Sacca indicated that members of the informal group of Chairs which will meet with Dean Parker regarding the opening up of the budgetary process would be happy to receive suggestions or questions from members of Faculty Council.

L. Sherman asked whether information about changing application/admission patterns at a Faculty level could be made available to Faculty Council. Dean Parker responded that this information could be gathered by the Office of Students Affairs and that the distribution of it would be an item on the agenda of the September Faculty Council meeting.

J. Locke asked whether the deadline for submission of honourary degree nominations has been changed, and if so, whether it would result in a change in the Faculty's nomination procedure. Dean Parker responded that the deadline has indeed changed, but that the Faculty of Fine Arts will not encounter any difficulties in meeting the new one.

4. Policy concerning the use of INC notations

MOTION: (Tweedie, Regimbald) "that the phrase "On Probation or in Conditional Standing" be deleted from the following sentence:

"When students are On Probation or in Conditional Standing, or they have received an "R" grade for the course, they are not eligible to apply for late completion".

(as published in Section 16.3.4 of the 1992-93 Undergraduate Calendar)

CARRIED

J. Locke asked about the manner in which this amendment will come into effect. Dean Parker responded that the motion will go to the Academic Programmes Committee (APC) and finally to Senate for approval. He added that it would probably not come into effect before the 1993-1994 academic year.

J. Locke asked whether the Faculty of Fine Arts could put this amendment into practice before Senate approves the change; P. Regimbald indicated that students are bound to abide by the contract/rules which are in effect during the year in which they enter the University, and added that he felt this rule does a disservice to students. Dean Parker indicated that he will raise these issues with both Senate and the APC.

5. Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on SIP

MOTION (Sherman, Andrus) "that the Report of the Ad Hoc Committee of Fine Arts Faculty Council on the Special Individual Programme (SIP) be accepted and approved."

Dean Parker noted that the Ad Hoc Committee on SIP had been established by Faculty Council in October 1990 in response to a perceived need to review both the criteria for admission to and graduation from SIP programmes associated with the Faculty of Fine Arts.

Professor Sherman then summarized the report's content and provided some additional information. As noted within the Report, the Ad Hoc Committee began meeting in Fall 1990. At the same time, a committee chaired by the Associate Dean of the Division of Graduate Studies was also meeting to review its own guidelines on SIP programmes. These guidelines (BGS 901 7 D14) were received by the Fine Arts Ad Hoc Committee in May 1991, at which time the final report of the Ad Hoc Committee was prepared, for submission to Council in Fall 1991.

Subsequent to the submission of the Final Report of the Fine Arts Ad Hoc Committee in Fall 1991, the Graduate Studies document has continued to undergo revision. Recommendations 4 and 5 of the Ad Hoc committee, for example, have now been incorporated into more recent versions of the Graduate Studies guidelines. In addition, BGS has approved a modification to SIP programs that states: "Special Individual Programs should not be permitted for graduate studies in single departments."

A discussion on the six recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee then followed:

Regarding Recommendation 6, on degree designation:

- G. Szilasi suggested that the designation "M.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies" might be confused with the recently approved undergraduate Major in Interdisciplinary Studies.

- L. Sherman agreed that the title of the SIP degree is problematic and can be misleading as it is designated according to the Department/Faculty of which the student's principal advisor is a member. She added that the Committee is open to suggestions about other possible designations.

- Dean Parker noted that it is important that the designation distinguish the SIP degree from the MFA degree as the requirements for each programme are different and not comparable.

- G. Gibbons indicated that the Committee's suggested designation of "M.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies" is useful as it complements and enhances the new Major in Interdisciplinary Studies.

- P. Regimbald recommended the designation "M.A. in Individualized Studies" as an appropriate title for the SIP degree

A discussion about the difficulty of determining a designation for the SIP degree which could be distinguished from all the other degrees awarded by the Faculty of Fine Arts ensued.

- L. Sherman noted that the Ad Hoc Committee on SIP would have preferred that the degree be awarded by the School of Graduate Studies rather than by individual Faculties, but that Graduate Studies maintained that the degree should be identified with the Faculty to which a SIP student's principal advisor belongs.

- M. Wagschal suggested an "MFA in Cross-Disciplinary Studies" maintaining that this title would reflect that fact that though SIP studies may encompass disciplines from different Faculties as well as different departments within a Faculty, if the primary focus of the student was Fine Arts, the MFA would be awarded. An internal Fine Arts committee would be needed to monitor applications.

- J. Kelly and D. Andrus spoke against this suggestion; an interdisciplinary progamme is often difficult to identify as principally one discipline or another; in addition, from the point of admission to the point of graduation, the proposed programme may undergo change; administering such changes would be difficult.

- L. Sherman suggested that it was important for Faculty Council to make a recommendation about the designation of the degree to Graduate Studies, as they are also grappling with this issue;

With respect to Recommendation # 1:

- K. Tweedie asked whether the two Committees mentioned in recommendation #1 are actually the same one.

- L. Sherman confirmed that they are, and noted that the School of Graduate Studies assumes that each Faculty has a Faculty Graduate Committee; she added that the Committee of Graduate Programme Directors is the closest thing to such a Committee within the Faculty of Fine Arts.

- E. Sacca suggested that any Faculty Graduate Committee established in the future should report to Faculty Council.

- G. Gibbons suggested that Dean Parker strike an ad hoc committee to write a mandate for a Faculty Graduate Committee which could be discussed and approved at the next Faculty Council meeting.

With respect to recommendation #4:

- K. Austin indicated that the word "consult" is inappropriate. He cited the example of the Department of Music's difficulty in meeting the resource demands made by SIP students in the past; he suggested that "approval" of the resource implications involved in a SIP student's proposed programme be obtained from the Dean of the Faculty as well as the Chair of the department concerned prior to the acceptance of a SIP student.

Faculty Council accepted this suggestion, and the above amendment was made to recommendation #4 of the Ad Hoc Committee on SIP.

S. Panet-Raymond suggested that an additional recommendation (#7) be included in the Report, to read as follows:

> "Prior to registration, the SIP Director shall obtain the consent of the Chair of the department in which the student wishes to take a tutorial or course."

Faculty Council accepted this suggestion, and the above amendment was made to recommendation #7 of the Ad Hoc Committee on SIP.

Dean Parker noted that two issues were still outstanding:

1. the title of the SIP degree; and

2. the question of whether a Faculty Graduate Committee, which would report to Faculty Council, should be established.

At this juncture, the discussion turned to the more general problem inherent in SIP programmes; while responsibility for the administration of the programme rests outside the Faculty, the degree itself must be conferred by the Faculty to which the principal supervisor belongs. While the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee seek to increase the level of consultation required between Graduate Studies and the Faculty of Fine Arts, there is still some unease in Fine Arts about this "vertical" relationship, and the dilemma it presents.

Further, the role of principal supervisor takes on great importance as it is the link between the Faculty and Graduate Studies; prior to accepting a request to become a principal supervisor, it is critical that a faculty member consult fully with both the Department Chair and the Dean.

- J. Locke suggested that the Faculty of Fine Arts, while continuing to participate in SIP students' programmes of study, should cease to award the SIP degree.

- Dean Parker asked Faculty Council whether or not they were, in fact, interested in continuing to participate in SIP as principal advisors

- D. Andrus indicated that the Faculty of Fine Arts should not remove the support of its members from exceptional students interested in the SIP.

- G. Gibbons indicated that he agreed with J. Locke's proposal that the Faculty no longer award the SIP degree, and suggested that Faculty Council withdraw the motion on the floor in order that they might study the issue of SIP in greater depth.

It was agreed that the motion be withdrawn.

- J. Locke then suggested that a straw vote be held to see if there was support for the designation of the SIP degree as an M.A. in Cross-Disciplinary Studies, and indeed for all of the amendments/additions that had been previously suggested.

- G. Gibbons pointed out that if Faculty Council amended recommendation #6 so that the title of the SIP degree offered by the Faculty of Fine Arts was designated as an "M.A. in Cross-Disciplinary Studies", this designation need not be permanent.

Faculty Council accepted this suggestion, and a friendly amendment to this effect was made to recommendation #6.

A straw vote was then requested in support of the appropriately amended recommendations. Support was demonstrable.

E. Sacca suggested that the minutes of the meeting be sent to D. Markiewicz, Associate Dean of the School of Graduate Studies, along with a list of duly amended recommendations, for incorporation into future guidelines. It was believed that much of the discussion would be helpful to Graduate Studies, in informing them of Fine Arts continuing concerns regarding SIP

programmes.

Dean Parker asked for volunteers to sit on the ad hoc committee which would write the mandate of the Faculty Graduate Committee yet to be established. G. Gibbons and J. Kelly volunteered. Dean Parker indicated that their suggestions would be discussed with the Steering Committee of the Fine Arts Faculty Council, and that a proposal would be brought to Faculty Council at its May meeting.

In closing, Dean Parker thanked the members of the Ad Hoc Committee on SIP for their work on the Committee Report.

6. Adjournment

MOTION (Gibbons, Szilasi) "that Faculty Council be adjourned."

CARRIED

Additional documents enclosed:

Final Recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on SIP Programs
As revised by Fine Arts Faculty Council
April 3, 1992

Respectfully submitted,

A. Mittag
April 7, 1992

FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON SIP PROGRAMS

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation I:

That the Committee of Graduate Program Directors of the Faculty of Fine Arts establish general guidelines for the qualifications necessary to be principal supervisor of a graduate student (including SIP) taking into account the special nature of expertise and experience in the different disciplines within the Faculty.

Recommendation II:

That there be a thesis requirement and no comprehensive at the M.A. level.

Recommendation III:

That the Fine Arts Graduate Committee (or the Committee of Graduate Program Directors) be asked to define the criteria for a "non-traditional dissertation" in consultation with internal and external experts in the field in question. In those departments which are contemplating new graduate programs and have no graduate programs in place, reference should be made to graduate programs in other universities.

Recommendation IV:

That prior to the acceptance of a SIP student, the Director of the SIP program obtain approval from the Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts and the Chairs of the departments concerned as to the resource implications involved in the student's proposed program.

Recommendation V:

That a faculty member who has been approached by a student to act as principal supervisor for a SIP program discuss the workload implications with the Chair of his/her department.

Recommendation VI:

That a SIP degree offered by the Faculty of Fine Arts be designated as an M.A. in Cross-Disciplinary Studies. As such, the members of the SIP Committee would be required to be from different departments in and/or without the Faculty of Fine Arts.

Recommendation VII:

That prior to registation, the SIP Director shall obtain the consent of the Chair of the Department in which the student wishes to take a tutorial or course."

As revised by Fine Arts Faculty Council
April 3, 1992